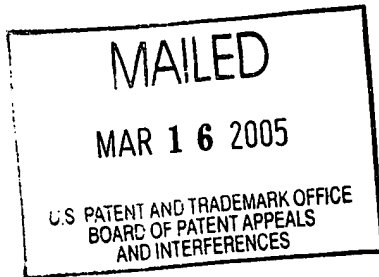


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte RALF REIMELT, HERBERT SCHROTH
and ARMIN WENDLER

Application 09/899,502

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on January 27, 2005. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

Upon review of the Examiner's Answer mailed on November 4, 2003 (Paper No. 17), there is no indication that an appeal conference has been conducted. According to the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) § 1208 (8th ed., August 2001), when an appeal conference has been held, the appeal conference

Application No. 09/899,502

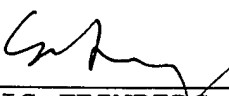
participants must identify themselves as the conferees, along with placing their initials next to their name.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner for taking corrective action regarding the appeal conference and for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

By:



CRAIG FEINBERG
Program and Resource Administrator
(571) 272-9797

gjh

cc: BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 SLATERS LANE
FOURTH FLOOR
ALEXDANDRIA, VA 22314